

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 057369
ORIGIN ARA-14

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DRAFTED BY TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE
APPROVED BY ARA:FRANK MCNEIL
ARA/ECA:ROBERT ZIMMERMANN
ARA/ECA:RICHARD GRAHAM
S/S - FWISNER

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O 062329Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 057369

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OAS, SHUM, PPDC, UY

SUBJECT:TRANSMITTAL OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S REPLY TO MENDEZ
JANUARY 11 LETTER

REF: MONTEVIDEO 605

1. THE EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO TRANSMIT BY DIPLOMATIC
NOTE THE TEXT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S LETTER DATED MARCH 3,
1978, IN RESPONSE TO PRESIDENT MENDEZ' LETTER OF
JANUARY 11. THE ORIGINAL IS BEING FORWARDED BY POUCH.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I DELAYED A RESPONSE
TO YOUR MESSAGE OF JANUARY 11, 1978 TO ALLOW TIME FOR
INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS ABOUT YOUR GOVERNMENT'S OFFER TO
HOST THE VIII GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF
AMERICAN STATES.

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I WAS IMPRESSED BY THE POSITIVE TONE OF YOUR LETTER
AND THE EXPRESSED DESIRE THAT WE WORK TOGETHER TO RESTORE
OUR TRADITIONAL CLOSE RELATIONS. THE REASON WE COULD
NOT SUPPORT YOUR INVITATION WAS OUR BELIEF THAT, IF THE
INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM IS TO BE VIABLE, ITS MEMBER STATES
SHOULD EFFECTIVELY COMPLY WITH THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF
MEMBERSHIP OF ALL THE ORGANS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF

AMERICAN STATES. AS AMBASSADOR MCGEE INDICATED AFTER THE

VOTE ON YOUR GOVERNMENT'S INVITATION, URUGUAY'S RELATIONS WITH THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SHOULD BE NORMALIZED BEFORE THE USG COULD SUPPORT SUCH AN INVITATION.

I BELIEVE THESE EVENTS HAVE BEEN VALUABLE IN GIVING US AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN OUR OWN POSITION AND UNDERSTAND THE OTHER SIDE'S. I WAS PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGED BY YOUR GOVERNMENT'S ACTION IN SENDING A SPECIAL DELEGATION HERE TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES WITH THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. I HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO EXPLORE WITH THE COMMISSION THE POSSIBILITY OF AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION TO THE CURRENT IMPASSE.

YOU WILL BE HEARING FROM US SOON ABOUT YOUR INVITATION TO ME TO SEND A PERSON OR GROUP TO URUGUAY TO VIEW THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER (SIGNED).

HIS EXCELLENCY
DR. APARICIO MENDEZ MANFREDINI
PRESIDENT OF THE ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY
MONTEVIDEO. END OF TEXT. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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